



**For Immediate Release  
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## **DOE Contractor and Union Pacific Railroad Sign Memorandum of Understanding for Moab UMTRA Project**

(Grand Junction, CO) — The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) contractor, *EnergySolutions*, yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Union Pacific Railroad for rail service and upgrades the railroad will perform in support of the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project. This announcement is part of DOE's commitment to inform the public of progress related to the project.

"We have been working with Union Pacific representatives for several months to finalize this agreement so that it is satisfactory to both parties," said Jeff Stevens, *EnergySolutions* Project Manager. "Obtaining this MOU helps ensure we can begin moving tailings as soon as possible."

Last month, DOE reaffirmed its Record of Decision to transport the uranium mill tailings by rail from Moab, Utah, to Crescent Junction, Utah, for permanent disposal. Before the containers filled with tailings can be loaded onto railcars at the existing load out area on the hillside above State Route 279 (Potash Road), substantial modifications to this area are necessary. In addition, some repairs must be made to the track along the entire route and improvements must be made at road crossings and at the Crescent Junction site. This work will be performed safely, in keeping with DOE's top priority, as was emphasized by DOE's Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management James A. Rispoli, when he met with Moab community leaders in May 2008.

According to the terms of the MOU and to accommodate DOE's plans to start transporting tailings in spring 2009, Union Pacific Railroad will replace ties and spikes along the track, install switches at Moab and Crescent Junction, and upgrade the road crossings as required by the Utah Department of Transportation. The MOU also permits *EnergySolutions* to load railcars on the branch line; however, *EnergySolutions* will construct railroad spurs at Moab and Crescent Junction to allow enough track capacity for the number of planned railcars.

**Contacts:**

Donald Metzler	Moab Federal Project Director	(970) 257-2115
Joann Wardrip	DOE Headquarters Public Affairs	(202) 586-4940